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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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HYBRID SEED PLANTED ON 7 ACRES OF CORN IN EVERY 10

Reserve This year 7 acres of corn out of every 10 were planted with hybrid seed. Every State of importance in corn production shows another increase in the proportion of hybrids over the year before, and with few exceptions this has been an annual occurrence since the hybrid series was started. In 1933 when corn hybrids were in the early stages of development only .1 percent of the total corn acreage, or 143,000 acres, was planted with hybrid seed. This year 61,690,000 acres, or 71.4 percent were in hybrids.

Hybrids have been almost universally adopted wherever their superiority over open-pollinated types has been proved. The Corn Belt States, the first to develop and accept hybrids, now plant over 9 acres of corn in every 10 with hybrid seed. Iowa reports 100 percent of its corn acreage in hybrids this year. Illinois and Indiana each have 99 percent, Ohio 97.5 percent and Nebraska, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin over 90 percent in hybrids. The Northeastern and Middle Atlantic States planted hybrid seed on over 75 percent of their corn acreage. Rate of adoption in other parts of the country, just as in the Corn Belt, depends chiefly on the availability of seed from hybrids proved to give higher yields than the open-pollinated varieties. Corn breeders have made notable progress in designing hybrids for specific purposes, such as for long and short seasons, for silage, for dry land farming, for tighter husks to resist weevil infestation in the South, and with one common end in view--higher yields per acre. Some examples are Texas with 36 percent of its corn acreage in hybrids, Oregon with 72 percent, Colorado with 34 percent, New York with 69 percent, and Arkansas with 49 percent--States with widely different corn growing conditions and utilization of the crop.

The greatest opportunity for expansion in hybrid corn acreage is in the southeastern corn area extending from North Carolina to Mississippi. Hybrids bred for this area are just now becoming available in sufficient supply for sizeable acreage increases. North Carolina planted 8 percent of its total corn acreage with hybrid seed this year compared with 5.5 percent in 1946. Mississippi has 10 percent in hybrids this year, but had only 5.5 percent last year.

This year in the North Central States, where unseasonably cool weather and frequent rains prevailed throughout the prolonged planting season, it is fortunate that an ample supply of hybrid seed was available. Because of the excellent care given hybrid seed by the seedsmen, from harvesting to delivery, hybrids usually give superior germination performance under adverse conditions. Furthermore, with the capabilities of each hybrid known it was possible for farmers to select the variety or varieties best suited to this season's widely varying conditions.

The 15-year series on U. S. corn acreage planted with hybrid seed is shown below:

CORN ACREAGE PLANTED WITH HYBRID SEED, UNITED STATES, 1933 - 1947

Year	All corn acreage	Percentage planted with Hybrid seed	Indicated Hybrid corn acreage	Year	All corn acreage	Percentage planted with Hybrid seed	Indic. Hybrid corn acr.
1933	109,830,000	0.1	143,000	1941	86,837,000	39.3	34,134,000
1934	100,563,000	.4	372,000	1942	88,818,000	46.4	41,199,000
1935	99,974,000	1.1	1,140,000	1943	94,341,000	52.4	49,428,000
1936	101,959,000	3.1	3,166,000	1944	95,475,000	59.2	56,475,000
1937	97,174,000	7.9	7,632,000	1945	89,727,000	64.4	57,752,000
1938	94,473,000	14.9	14,079,000	1946	90,027,000	68.7	61,824,000
1939	91,639,000	22.5	20,618,000	1947	86,424,000	71.4	61,690,000
1940	88,692,000	30.5	27,011,000				

CORN ACREAGE PLANTED WITH HYBRID SEED, 1946-1947

State	1946			1947 (Preliminary)		
	All corn acreage (000)	Percentage planted with Hybrid seed	Indicated Hybrid corn acreage (000)	All corn acreage (000)	Percentage planted with Hybrid seed	Indicated Hybrid corn acreage (000)
Me.	11	45.0	5	10	57.0	6
N.H.	13	52.0	7	13	62.0	8
Vt.	58	53.0	31	57	58.0	33
Mass.	38	62.0	24	36	68.0	24
R.I.	8	65.0	5	8	68.0	5
Conn.	50	65.0	32	47	68.0	32
N.Y.	689	58.0	400	634	69.0	437
N.J.	190	81.0	154	175	86.0	150
Pa.	1,327	74.0	1,034	1,369	80.0	1,095
Ohio	3,671	97.0	3,561	3,451	97.5	3,365
Ind.	4,557	98.5	4,489	4,375	99.0	4,331
Ill.	9,097	99.0	9,006	9,097	99.0	9,006
Mich.	1,830	85.0	1,556	1,610	88.0	1,417
Wis.	2,571	92.0	2,365	2,571	92.5	2,378
Minn.	5,514	94.0	5,183	5,404	94.0	5,080
Iowa	11,064	100.0	11,064	10,400	100.0	10,400
Mo.	4,710	90.5	4,263	4,522	92.5	4,183
N.Dak.	1,219	47.0	573	1,109	48.0	532
S.Dak.	4,097	62.0	2,540	4,097	70.0	2,868
Nebr.	8,062	89.0	7,175	7,578	92.0	6,972
Kans.	3,154	73.0	2,302	2,523	79.0	1,993
Del.	145	67.0	97	142	75.0	106
Md.	458	75.0	344	449	90.0	404
Va.	1,125	55.0	619	1,136	67.0	761
W.Va.	303	53.0	161	303	57.0	173
N.C.	2,215	5.5	122	2,215	8.0	177
S.C.	1,452	2.5	36	1,437	5.0	72
Ga.	3,313	2.5	83	3,346	2.5	84
Fla.	703	7.5	53	703	9.0	63
Ky.	2,253	73.0	1,645	2,185	78.0	1,704
Tenn.	2,207	23.0	508	2,207	30.0	662
Ala.	2,743	3.0	82	2,825	4.5	127
Miss.	2,417	5.5	133	2,369	10.0	237
Ark.	1,509	39.0	589	1,373	49.0	673
La.	1,040	8.0	83	998	14.0	140
Okla.	1,534	27.0	414	1,319	40.0	528
Tex.	3,267	23.0	751	3,071	36.0	1,106
Mont.	190	12.0	23	196	15.0	29
Idaho	27	48.0	13	24	60.0	14
Wyo.	73	7.0	5	73	8.0	6
Colo.	717	30.0	215	638	34.0	217
N.Mex.	160	9.0	14	160	9.5	15
Ariz.	34	3.0	1	34	3.0	1
Utah	22	54.0	12	25	62.0	16
Nev.	2	41.0	1	2	46.0	1
Wash.	17	51.0	9	17	69.0	12
Oreg.	34	64.0	22	31	72.0	22
Calif.	67	30.0	20	60	41.0	25
U.S.	90,027	68.7	61,824	86,424	71.4	61,690